



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

MINNEAPOLIS MAN FACES ADDITIONAL TERROR CHARGES

MINNEAPOLIS — A Minneapolis man charged last year with conspiracy to provide material support to al Qaeda is facing additional terrorism-related charges brought by a federal grand jury today.

Mohammed Abdulla Warsame, 31, a citizen of Somalia, was initially charged in January 2004 with a single count of conspiracy to provide material support to al Qaeda. A superseding indictment unsealed today adds one count of providing material support to al Qaeda, and three counts of making false statements to the FBI.

According to the superseding indictment, Warsame provided false statements to the FBI when he claimed that since 1995 he had traveled only to Saudi Arabia and Somalia. However, from 2000 through 2001, Warsame actually traveled to Pakistan and Afghanistan to attend military training camps and participate in combat. He also made false statements about his frequent contact with associates he met while attending military training camps in Afghanistan. These associates have since relocated to Canada, Pakistan and elsewhere throughout the world.

Warsame was also charged with making a false statement regarding his financial support of associates he met while attending military training camps, omitting his collection and transfer of about \$2,000 to an associate in Pakistan.

If convicted, Warsame faces a maximum potential penalty of 15 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine on each count of conspiracy and providing material support to al Qaeda, and up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine on each count of making a false statement.

This case is the result of an investigation by the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF), a multi-agency effort combining the resources of federal, state and local law enforcement. This investigation was conducted with the assistance of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the U.S. Marshals Service, the Minneapolis Police Department, the St. Paul Police Department, the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office and the Minnesota Department of Public Safety.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.